

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

DOTE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /075 W

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R 131447Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6729

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI BY POUCH

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT CORRECTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, GR, BU

SUBJ: KARAMANLIS VISIT TO BULGARIA JULY 6-7

1. MFA DIRECTOR OF RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

MAZARAKIS TOLD AN EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER JULY 12 THAT  
THE JULY 6-7 VISIT BY THE GREEK PRIME MINISTER TO VARNA TO  
MEET WITH BULGARIAN PRESIDENT ZHIVKOV HAD BEEN AGREED  
TO IN PRINCIPLE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND WAS A WORKING  
MEETING, THE FOURTH BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS SINCE KARAMANLIS'  
RETURN TO POWER IN 1974. FOR THE GREEKS THE PURPOSE OF  
THE MEETING WAS TO TRY AND MOVE GREEK-BULGARIAN RELATIONS  
TO A NEWER AND HIGHER LEVEL OF BILATERAL COOPERATION.

2. MAZARAKIS SAID THE GREEK SIDE PUT FORTH A PROPOSAL FOR  
NESTOS RIVER COOPERATION. THE GREEKS WANT ASSURED MINIMUM  
WATER LEVELS TO BE MAINTAINED WHEN THE RIVER FLOWS INTO  
GREECE, WITHOUT TOO GREAT A DIVERSION ON THE BULGARIAN  
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SIDE FOR IRRIGATION OR OTHER PURPOSES. IN THIS THEY  
WERE APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL FOR MFA SECRETARY GENERAL  
THEODOROPOULOS TOLD THE CHARGE' IN A SEPARATE MEETING THAT THE  
VISIT'S MOST IMPORTANT RESULT WAS THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT  
ZHIVKOV INSTRUCTED THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR NESTOS  
PLANNING TO TAKE GREEK REQUIREMENTS IN THIS RESPECT FULLY  
INTO ACCOUNT.

3. MAZARAKIS NOTED THE BULGARIANS PUT FORWARD A NUMBER OF PAPERS RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRADE, AND CERTAIN JOINT VENTURES FOR THE MARKETING OF GOODS PRODUCED IN BULGARIA AND GREECE. HE ADDED THE GREEK SIDE WILL NOW STUDY THESE BULGARIAN PROPOSALS WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO HOW ANY SUCH AGREEMENTS MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY GREECE'S COMMON MARKET ENTRY. THEODOROPOULOS ALSO INFORMED THE CHARGE THAT CONSIDERABLE TIME WAS SPENT IN DISCUSSING BULGARIAN USE OF THE PORT OF THESSALONIKI. THE BULGARIANS HAD COMPLAINED THAT GREEK STEVEDORES ONLY WORK ONE 8-HOUR SHIFT A DAY, AND ASKED THE GOG TO GET THEM TO WORK SHIFTS AROUND THE CLOCK TO MOVE BULGARIAN GOODS FASTER.

4. THE ATMOSPHERICS OF THE VISIT WERE EXCELLENT, ACCORDING TO BOTH MFA OFFICIALS. IN ADDITION, FOREIGN MINISTER RALLIS, IN PRAISING THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT TO NEWSMEN, HAILED BULGARIAN "EAGERNESS" FOR STEPPED-UP ECONOMIC COOPERATION. FOR HIS PART, PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS STATED UPON HIS RETURN THAT GREEK-BULGARIAN RELATIONS HAD UNDERGONE "A SPECTACULAR DEVELOPMENT" IN THE LAST THREE YEARS WITH "GREAT POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT."

5. APPARENTLY THE ONLY SOUR NOTE IN THE DISCUSSIONS  
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BETWEEN KARAMANLIS AND ZHIVKOV, NOTED BY BOTH OUR MFA SOURCES, WAS WHEN KARAMANLIS RAISED HIS EARLIER INITIATIVE CONCERNING BALKAN COOPERATION. THE BULGARIANS REITERATED THEIR "ADAMANT" OPPOSITION TO MULTILATERAL ACTIVITIES AND CONTINUED TO STRESS THEIR PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION. MAZARAKIS COMMENTED THAT THE RESTRAINING INFLUENCE OF THE SOVIETS WAS EVIDENT IN THIS RESPECT.

MILLS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Subject:** KARAMANLIS VISIT TO BULGARIA JULY 6-7  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PGOV, OVIP, GR, BU, (ZHIVKOV, TODOR), (KARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)  
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